

TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

RECORD OF MEETING

Second Quarter Meeting, FY 94
Meeting Date: February 23, 1994

Place: Stephen F. Austin Building Meeting No.: 18 Room: 1149

Committee Members

Affiliation

Mary Ambrose, Chair	TNRCC
Bill E. Couch	TAGD
Donnie Dipple, Alternate	TDA
Alan Dutton	BEG
Richard Ginn	RCT
Wayne Jordan	TAES, TX A&M
Charles R. Maddox	TDH
Phil Nordstrom, Vice Chair	TWDB

Guest Speaker

A. Richard (Dick) Smith	TNRCC/MSW Division
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Agency Staff

Affiliation Program

Awinash Bhatkar	TDA	Pesticides-Impact Evaluation
Bob Blodgett	TNRCC	WU Div/Monitoring & Enf.
Charles Brigance	TNRCC	Waste Div/PC/ER
Bruce Calder	TNRCC	MSW Div/GW Monitoring
Ambrose Charles	TDA	
Margaret Hart	TNRCC	WSM Div/Ground-Water Assessment
Ginny King	TNRCC	DARP
Geof Meyer	TNRCC	I&HW Div/Technical Consultants
John Meyer	TNRCC	WU Div/Compliance & Monitoring
Kelly Mills	TNRCC	WSM Div/Ground-Water Assessment
Anne Miller	TNRCC	PST Div/Responsible Party Remed.
Steve Musick	TNRCC	WSM Div/Ground Water Assessment
David Ruckman	TNRCC	I&HW/Enforcement
Cecily Warren	TNRCC	L&RS/FO Division

Interested Parties

Affiliation

Monte Akers	Texas Municipal League
Will Boettner	Radian Corporation
Jim Hester Evergreen	UWCD, Jourdanton

Hillary Hutchinson
Ken Kramer
Dan MacLemore
Doris Parker
H. Keith & Dee Pate
Catherine Perrine
Denise Rhodes
Lauren Ross
Lloyd Woosley

Brown, McCarroll, Oaks, Hartline
Sierra Club, Austin
Roy F. Weston, Inc.
Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.
Edwards Reg. Auth. Brd. Appointee, Charlotte
League of Women Voters, Dallas
Ciba-Geigy
League of Women Voters
US Geological Survey

ITEM I. Call to Order and Introductions

The Chair called the FY 94, second quarter meeting of the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee to order in Room 1149 of the Stephen F. Austin Building. The Texas State Soil and Conservation Board was not represented.

ITEM II. Subcommittee Reports

Agricultural Chemicals

The Chair called on Steve Musick, Texas Natural Resource Conservation Committee (TNRCC), Chair of the Agricultural Chemicals Subcommittee, who reported on the last subcommittee meeting held on February 14, 1993.

Mr. Musick reported that the State Management Plan (SMP) will be presented by the Public Education Task Force to several groups and organizations. The brochure and display are coming along. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the final guidance document for Pesticides in SMPs. The subcommittee is updating the generic SMP before the development of chemical specific plans. The SFIREG meeting was held in Washington D.C. January 31 - February 1, 1994. The EPA plans to release the listing and rules regarding chemical-specific SMPs by the end of this summer. These plans should be in effect prior to the 1997 growing season.

The Chair asked Mr. Musick if the generic SMP document is to be streamlined. Mr. Musick indicated the document is to be revised and the chemical specific SMP will reference the revised generic SMP.

Data Management Subcommittee

The Chair called on Bob Blodgett, TNRCC, Chair of the Data Management Subcommittee, who reported on the progress of the ground-water data dictionary.

Mr. Blodgett reported that editing of the ground-water data dictionary will be finalized with the next two weeks. To date, the data dictionary contains 137 statistical elements and 37 lookup tables. After final editing, the data dictionary will be distributed to the academic and consulting

communities for peer review. Upon completion, the data dictionary will be included on the Texas Natural Resource Information System (TNRIS) bulletin board.

ITEM III. Presentation - TNRCC - Ground-Water Protection in the Municipal Solid Waste Program

The Chair introduced Mr. A. Richard (Dick) Smith, Director, Ground-Water Protection Program, Compliance and Enforcement Section, Municipal Solid Waste Division of the TNRCC. He presented an overview of the historical regulations, both state and federal, of municipal solid waste facilities within the State. He discussed the historical overview of municipal solid waste disposal operational practices. Next he addressed the new ground-water protection regulations contained in Chapter 26, Subchapter H, of the Texas Water Code. The regulations were published in the Texas Register on June 19, 1993, and became effective on October 9, 1993. He provided a handout of Subchapter H which covered rules regarding liners and cover. He then discussed House Bill 2537, codified as Chapter 361, Subchapter R, of the Texas Health and Safety Code, which regulates the land use over closed municipal solid waste landfills. The rules stipulate that infiltration will not exceed outflow at the base of the landfill. Also addressed in the new rules was the elimination of type 2 and type 3 landfills. Lastly, all municipal landfills (approximately 400), and certain type 4 landfills, will have ground-water monitoring.

ITEM IV. Business - Discussion

Committee Public Education - Outreach Efforts

The Chair led a discussion on the progress of the Groundwater Protection Committee educational brochure and provided a draft in the form of a handout. It was decided that two separate documents should be prepared. The brochure, the first document, will have priority. It should be narrowed to include only ground-water issues, including the ground-water protection strategy of the state and a brief overview of the Committee and its member agencies. The booklet, the second document, will include the materials from the brochure along with a broader profile of the Committee member agencies. A handout of the first draft of the brochure (idealized) was provided to the committee members.

State Ground-Water Protection Program - Core Program Assessment

The Chair asked Steve Musick, TNRCC, to brief the Committee on the status of this item. He reported that the EPA accepted the State Ground-Water Protection Program - Draft Core Program Assessment provided to members at the August, 1993 Committee meeting. Mr. Musick noted that there was no detailed review or comments from the EPA, but they had no major problems with the draft assessment. Mr. Musick indicated he was not sure of EPA's intentions with regard to the CSGWPP or the Core Program Assessment. He also noted that the EPA had informed him, in December 1993, that they would not conduct a detailed review nor endorse or approve the Core Program Assessment. Mr. Richard Ginn, Railroad Commission of Texas (RCT), added that the EPA was looking for a state to serve as a model. A handout was distributed.

ITEM V. Announcements and Information Exchange for Other Ground Water Related Activities

Status Update - Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report

The Chair called on Kelly Mills, TNRCC, to give the status of the 1993 Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report. Mr. Mills reported that materials were being received at the present time. The deadline for the submittal of materials is February 25, but Mr. Mills reported that several contributors for several member agencies would be tardy with their submittals.

Other Announcements

The Chair announced the formation, by Paul Jehn with the University of Idaho Water Research Institute, of a new group called the Interstate Ground Water Manager's Connection. This is an attempt to establish communication between state ground-water officials. One issue of current concern is the Clean Water Act and its reauthorization. Mr. Jehn will publish, with EPA funding, a newsletter called The Communique.

Steve Musick, TNRCC, gave the following schedule from SFIREG for Ag Chemical SMP implementation:

Late summer '94 - Chemical Specific Management Plans (SMP) Proposed Rules
Late summer '95 - Issuance of final rules
Late summer '96 - Developmental phase, submit SMP to EPA
February '97 - EPA complete review for approval of SMP
May '97 - End of three month phase in period

The Chair also reported that the EPA would soon be releasing the guidance document on Ground Water Ecology Strategic Plan, addressing the inter-relationship of ground and surface waters.

Public Comment

ITEM VI. Adjourn

There being no other business or discussion, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:45.

Compiled by Steve Musick, TNRCC